

# THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

WASHINGTON, MAY 4 AND 5, 1905

*Wednesday, May 3, 1905.*

At eight-thirty A.M. the registration books were open and the secretary and treasurer in attendance until time for the delegates to assemble for the meeting of the American Federation of Nurses.

*Thursday, May 4, 1905.*

Eight-thirty A.M.—The presentation of credentials, registration of delegates, and payment of annual dues concluded.

At ten o'clock the president, Miss Mary M. Riddle, took the chair and declared the Eighth Annual Convention of the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States formally opened.

Roll-call by the secretary showed one hundred and thirty-three delegates to be present from alumnae associations and nine from State organizations.

The president then called the attention of the assembly to a matter of some importance which would be presented before going on with the routine business.

MISS WHITAKER.—I move that the Associated Alumnae be empowered to hold its meeting at this time, May 4 and 5.

Motion seconded by Miss Damer. Carried.

PRESIDENT.—Possibly some member would appreciate an explanation of this action.

MISS KEATING.—I think we should be glad to hear of the reason.

PRESIDENT.—I shall ask Miss Damer to make a short explanation.

MISS DAMER.—By way of explanation of this motion I would say that our incorporation papers require the association to hold its meetings on the first three days of May, and it was impossible for us to have those days this week, so this is merely a matter of form; that by the unanimous vote of the association we hold our meetings to-day just to make it entirely legal, and that is why that motion has been made, so that we can begin our convention on the fourth day of May instead of the first day of May. By the unanimous vote of the assembly here it is entirely legal.

Miss Riddle then addressed the members of the association as follows:

## ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT

"MEMBERS OF THE NURSES' ASSOCIATED ALUMNÆ: It is my great pleasure to again appear before you and open this your eighth annual convention, where we trust may be deliberated, discussed, and solved those problems which shall decide your policy and usefulness for the year upon which you now enter.

"You have had a glorious past, you have lived up to the measure of faith reposed in you, and, judging from the number and attitude of those now before me, it seems just to conclude there has been during

the year no abatement of interest in the questions agitating the minds and hearts of all members of our profession in this broad land.

"It has been our custom to laud our own efforts to some extent. To-day we can devote but the briefest time to that. We must let our past stand as it is and let our future come as it will. We may, however, be allowed to gather inspiration for renewed and continued effort by casting our eyes over the history of nursing in this country as written in the annals of the Associated Alumnae.

"One of the leading reflections to which this anniversary seems to invite us respects the changes that have taken place in the nursing profession since the formation of your society. In looking at these changes and estimating their effect upon our condition we are obliged to consider not what has been done in this society only, but also that which has been done in other nursing organizations receiving much of their impetus here.

"We find that but for the support and encouragement given by this association and others of its kind, nurses in many communities would hardly have come out for themselves sufficiently even to establish directories and clubs of their own. We have seen them in some cities hesitating and wavering lest this important step be misconstrued and they be ostracized or boycotted for such rank independence. By reason of the inspiration delegates of local associations received here the strength for such work grew, as did, ultimately, the work under their hands, until to-day nurses' directories managed by nurses are so assured and so definitely a part of the equipment for the proper transaction of business that they seem always to have belonged to the nurses; and this change has come about in much less than one decade, for we find our predecessors discussing here the possibilities for such advancement within a much shorter period.

"Again, so extraordinary has been the progress of the last few years that within a very recent period we find them also discussing here a preliminary or preparatory course for nurses. So intent were they upon procuring this and so satisfactory did it prove where tried that other schools of learning are now found considering the propriety of making it a part of their curricula, and some have even gone so far as to make the practical experiment. Thus we see that in this, as in many other instances, the members of the two greatest and most influential nursing organizations planted well—possibly better than they knew, but, like many individual originators, they to-day are scarcely credited with being the originators or with having first placed the possibilities for such advancement before their societies. But however that may be, results certainly justify the wisdom of their proposals.

"So we might go on and on enumerating what has been accomplished by the Associated Alumnae. But there is one accomplishment that outweighs all others, and that is the fact that here is a society that has proved the school where have been drilled and incited the possible members of other organizations. Here, no doubt, State societies were first conceived, and here they must have received in large measure their sympathy and moral support, and who shall say that that very sympathy and moral support may not have been a real source of strength to the pioneers in obtaining registration for nurses and the recognition of our profession by the State?

"We have as one of the avowed objects of this association that it shall strengthen the union of nursing organizations. To those organizations that have labored so assiduously during the year to procure State registration and have met with but indifferent success or downright failure it is a great comfort to reflect that here at least is sympathy, here will be met a complete understanding.

"Might we not by our earnestness and *esprit de corps* stand so closely together as to form a solid wall upon which may lean those State societies that find arrayed against them and their efforts an extremely conservative public, an antagonistic medical profession, and an indifferent nursing body. Let us hope that each and every such society is represented here to-day by a good, live delegate who shall gather inspiration for a most active home missionary service upon her return. The delegate who comes here and returns imbued with the spirit of progress and a will to work must be living up to a certain measure of her responsibilities. Her local alumnae possibly denied itself much that its delegate be sent to this convention, and why? Simply because it felt the need of intercourse with other workers of the same class and could neither come here nor call this body there, hence the chosen representative.

"Doubtless it was understood she should make this as much of an outing for herself as would be compatible with opportunities for doing the business that caused her to come here and that should rightfully be transacted before any indulgence in pleasure. It is to be hoped the local societies will require more of their delegates than detailed reports of business done and papers read and accounts of sights seen and festivities participated in. If they have needs and realize them, it is to be hoped they will arise *en masse* and demand that the delegates advise them according to instruction and knowledge gained here. Possibly a delegate has come requiring a definite solution for a vexing problem. Then let her not hesitate to seek her answer here and continue her search until the result meets the need. To this end she will be promptly

in her place when the sessions open, and she will remain with concentrated attention until they close, and we trust she will be ready to make her requests and propound her questions when the opportunity is given.

"By meeting these seekers in the proper way and considering their questions in a helpful spirit shall we be in some degree *strengthening* the union of *nursing* organizations, and, members of this convention here assembled, let me say to you that there is great need of it to-day.

"Nurses all over the land are asking for much, so much and so earnestly definitely and well that legislators halt before them and, it may be, set the seal of disapproval upon their efforts from sheer astonishment at what seems like audacity from its very uniqueness and scope.

"But notwithstanding the realization of the nurses' hopes have in many cases been thus postponed, they have been found to be a power and an element to be treated with.

"There have also arisen many prophets who would lead them into the promised land. It is said that someone has called the new movement in England the limited liability company to train, register, and control nurses. Some of these self-constituted leaders hold out to the nurses the possibility of the realization of that much cherished desire,—viz., educational advancement,—knowing that nothing appeals more strongly to the average nurse to-day.

"Not all of these newly arisen leaders are insincere or self-seeking. Some there be who truly have the interest of the nursing profession at heart and have much to offer in the way of advice, intelligence, and authority. But others have a system to defend or an interest to advance, and can see their way clear for the accomplishment of their purpose by proposing or opposing, or cajoling or threatening, or possibly by disrupting existing organizations, as occasion may demand. Now, it becomes the duty of this great body of nurses to be a unit in standing by its principles and its traditions so firmly that its influence shall be felt to the uttermost local *alumnæ* or affiliated State society, and it can be done if each delegate feels it incumbent upon herself to go hence and spread the gospel of unity and progress. It is as true to-day of us as it ever was of our country—that 'united we stand, divided we fall.'

"These words are not spoken because there is any evidence anywhere that this association is swerving from its principles, but as a note of warning for the delegates to take with them against that which may arise under the guise of help or philanthropy or *what not* and calls for a departure from the old paths. Not that we should forever remain treading in any one way,—lest we be narrow and cease to progress; such a course would be contrary to the spirit of our originators or the precepts they promulgated,—but we must consider carefully and decide

wisely what is to be for the best good of the nursing profession in this country—in short, we must be very thoughtful. In order to accomplish this our eyes must be open that we may select the gold from the dross, that we may know our wise teachers and leaders from the unwise, and that we may act accordingly.

"This we must do with a spirit of charity for all and malice for none. We *must* not and *will* not spurn the learning nor theories of those who have given much time and thought to the advancement of our beloved calling, but we will yet, with possibly wholesome and trusted advice, decide for ourselves what is best to accept and what to reject.

"As the years have gone on you have had before you many questions for adjustment—among others, the ownership of the JOURNAL. You will no doubt hear from the committee of your selection last year just what your relations to that organ are and may be expected to be henceforth.

"Your duty to the JOURNAL is, however, an unceasing one, and may be manifested by the way in which you support it by your subscriptions. We have no hesitation in saying to you, and through you to your home alumnae associations, that you should subscribe for the JOURNAL if you have not already done so. This is not because the JOURNAL needs you more than you need the JOURNAL. You will have more than value received for your investment, and it is the only organ of its kind in this or any other country published by nurses for nurses.

"For years our senior society, that of the Superintendents of Training-Schools, has been agitating the question of how to procure skilled nursing service for people of limited means. They are still weighing the pros and cons, hoping to arrive at a solution which shall be a just one to both patient and nurse. They have been our directors in many matters, but when we seek the actual workers, those who must do the nursing work, we find them in this great body. Might not this, then, be a question to properly enlist the attention of alumnae associations and clubs of graduate nurses? Work of this kind is being done in some cities; might it not be worked out in others? Surely this class is as well worth our care as any other! As has been said, the millionaire is provided for, the very poor are provided for, but the great self-respecting middle class, the bone and sinew of our nation,—with pride we say our own class!—what can we do for them?

"We can and must do something. It is unfair that they be left to the mercy of schools which have no hesitation in deploring in the public prints the fact that they are handicapped during their first year's existence because their nurses' earnings cannot be great or sufficient to support the school. Why? We ask of you who have spent two, three,

or four years in training—why should nurses' earnings be great in their first year of training? I say, then, with what measure of devotion to our profession can we serve these people of our own class? Does the question appeal to you? does it merit your attention? Then take it home with you and seek its solution with your colleagues, remembering that concentrated human thought is the power by which human ends are ultimately attained.

"Disseminate any knowledge you may gain by successful experiments made, strengthen the hands of all earnest workers along the line, and it must transpire that good shall be accomplished.

"We point with pride to that other achievement of our senior society,—namely, the Course in Hospital Economics at Teachers College, Columbia University,—and we commend it to your thoughtful attention. It may lie within your power to aid it—and certainly you need not be reminded of the privilege accorded you in doing so. It has established its usefulness. It must survive as the fittest place where knowledge and learning such as it advances can be procured.

"To recapitulate, we have before us for our year's work the opportunity to assist by our moral support and otherwise those nursing organizations that are struggling for the realization of high ideals. When we consider the large number of nurses that take no interest in their professional affairs we realize that the local alumnae societies here represented will have ample scope for their time and talents. It has been truly said that the apathy of nurses themselves in regard to the matters which most closely concern them has often done more for their defeat than active opposition. This apathy can be overcome by the continued, persistent, patient, sympathetic, and concerted work of this large, interested body.

"Let us put it off now, this dread apathy, and stand forth in our vigor and firmness ready for the defence of our ideals, which must be cherished at the cost of any effort whatsoever. Then shall no other proof be needed that we are indeed an association that is associated, and for the advancement of the nursing profession.

"By reason of our sincere efforts there shall spring up splendid results. We may sow in weakness, but we shall be raised in strength.

"From our zeal for learning and knowledge opportunities shall arise which shall advance the nursing profession many paces into the van. There shall arise wise plans full of the enthusiasms which we ourselves breathe and the realization of which must bring to us the blessings of good work well done."

**PRESIDENT.**—We will now proceed with the business of the convention and call for the secretary's report.

The secretary reported as follows:

**"MADAM PRESIDENT:** May I call the attention of the delegates to the record of the proceedings of the seventh annual convention as issued in printed form in July last, and to the reprint of the most important business transacted at that convention, which is placed in their hands this morning in the shape of a constitution and by-laws?

"The preliminary meeting of the Board of Directors for the year 1904-1905 was held in the Hotel Westminster, New York, on October 21.

"The members of the committee present were Miss Damer, first vice-president; Miss Whitaker, second vice-president; Miss Casey, Miss Smith, Miss Nutting, Miss McIsaac, and Miss Goodrich, of the Board of Directors, and Mary E. Thornton, secretary.

"Miss Riddle, the president; Miss Healy, the treasurer, and Miss Dolliver, of the Board of Directors, were unavoidably absent.

"In accordance with Section 2 of Article V. of the by-laws—'The Board of Directors shall choose from its own members an Executive Committee of at least five, who shall meet as often as necessary and transact such business as may come before it. They shall report at the annual meetings'—the board appointed Miss Damer, Miss Whitaker, Miss Healy, Miss Goodrich, and Miss Thornton an Executive Committee. (According to the by-laws the president is an ex-officio member of all committees.)

"Miss Nevins having been appointed on the Committee of Arrangements, it was decided to ask her to select four members in Washington to serve on the committee with her.

"The Committee on Publication was formed, with Miss Damer, Miss Healy, and Miss Thornton.

"The Committee on Eligibility, with Miss Goodrich, Miss McIsaac, Miss Nutting, Miss Dolliver, and Miss Hay.

"The Programme Committee, with Miss Nutting, Miss Casey, Miss Sly, Miss Damer, and Miss Nevins.

"It was decided at this meeting to give votes to the alumnae of the Faxon, of Utica; the Methodist Episcopal, of Philadelphia; the North Adams, of Massachusetts.

"The question of withdrawing from the National Council of Women and becoming affiliated with the International Council of Nurses as per the accompanying letter,—

*"To the President and Members of the Committee, the American Federation of Nurses.*

**"MADAM PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS:** At the recent meeting of the International Council of Nurses in Berlin, after hearing reports from different countries, and finding that England and Germany had formed organizations on national lines, the following motion was proposed by Miss Isla Stewart, seconded by Miss Dock, and carried unanimously:

"That invitations be officially sent to the American Federation of Nurses, the Provisional Committee of the National Council of Nurses of England, and the German Nurses' Association, inviting them to affiliate with the International Council of Nurses."

"I have great pleasure in transmitting this resolution to you and in asking you to act upon same, and in so doing may express the ardent hope it will be acted upon affirmatively. At no time since Miss Nightingale created a new order in nursing have nursing affairs been so intensely interesting as at present. In almost every European country some process of reform or regeneration is going on akin to our own effort for registration. In Italy three trained nurses, one English, one German, and one American, are bringing in the modern reforms and methods and are planting them in the midst of thousand-year-old customs. In France the monastic orders have been removed from the hospitals and the authorities are struggling with a perfectly enormous problem of education and training. Two demonstrations of the training of gentlewomen as nurses

are being conducted there, one in Bordeaux and one in Paris, and, as in Italy, these small plants must be looked to to regenerate the rest.

"In Germany trained nursing has advanced far in discipline and in system, but largely under forms which have kept the nurses in a condition of entire dependency, and lately many of the intelligent and progressive ones among them, aided by the German Council of Women, have asserted their right to economic freedom, their right to organize and govern themselves after graduation, and have declared the necessity of a more uniform training and of State protection. This assertion of independence has been truly a revolution in Germany, and the leaders have had to endure contumely and persecution. In England the movement for State registration is meeting with bitter opposition in certain quarters. Such opposition as we have met at home will help us to understand the source and motives of opposition here, as in all countries the problem is the same, only differing in degree but not in kind. In spite of the obstacles the State Society for Registration has waged a brilliant campaign and has succeeded in so arousing the public that a select committee of the House of Commons has been appointed to inquire into the subject. This committee is now taking evidence. To witness all these efforts drives one to the irresistible conclusion that mutual encouragement and support of one another is urgently demanded. In many ways Americans are in a better and more independent condition than the nurses of any European country. This being so, we may be of the greatest help to our struggling fellow-workers in their efforts at reform. Moral support alone is worth much, as we found in Germany, and as, with men of affairs, actual numbers count for much, every thousand, every hundred women even, that we can total up as being united in their requests and aims will help to bring about more quickly the reforms which each country is working for.

"With the hope that we shall soon have an effective union of national councils,

"Most sincerely yours,

"L. L. Dock,

"Secretary.

"September 2, 1904."

—was brought up and the president reported a unanimous vote of the board in favor of such proceeding.

"It was decided to hold the meetings during the first week in May, and to devote one of the three days to a meeting of the American Federation of Nurses, arranging for necessary business, such as the registration of delegates, the receiving of annual dues, etc., early on that day.

"The Committee on Publication was authorized to proceed with the printing of the constitution and by-laws.

"On Friday, January 20, a meeting of the Executive Committee was called at the residence of the secretary, 500 West One-Hundred-and-Twenty-first Street, New York. The members of the committee present were Miss Riddle, Miss Damer, Miss Whitaker, and Miss Thornton, and Miss McIsaac, of the Board of Directors. Miss Healy and Miss Goodrich were ill and unable to attend.

"It was decided at this meeting to hold the annual meeting on May 4 and 5, leaving Wednesday, May 3, for the meeting of the American Federation of Nurses.

"The question of the advisability of making some definite ruling in regard to payment of bills incurred by the officers and various committees was discussed freely, and the members of the committee were agreed that it was very important to have some law governing such expenditures. The committee recommends that the meetings of the full Executive Board be held just after one convention and on the eve of the next, as at that time the members are easily assembled; in the case of the law governing the meeting of the Nominating Committee, 'It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to meet at least one month before the annual meeting and to nominate two or more candidates for every office to be filled at the annual election,' it would be well if the members of that committee too might arrange a meeting immediately after the adjournment of the annual convention, as most of the work of securing candidates must of necessity be done by correspondence, and by calling a meeting at



that time, providing members are where they can be summoned to attend, considerable expense would be saved and the law observed.

"The third and fourth executive meetings were called at the Hotel Shoreham, in Washington, May 2 and 3.

"The secretary presented an invitation received from the Spanish-American War Nurses requesting the honor of the presence of the officers and members of the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States at the unveiling of the monument erected to the army nurses who died in the service of their country during the war with Spain, on Tuesday afternoon, May 2, 1905, at three o'clock, at Arlington Cemetery, Va., near Washington, D. C. Regret was expressed that the invitation could not be conveyed to the members in time to witness the ceremony.

"The board appointed Miss Caroline I. Milne judge of elections, Miss G. C. Ross and Miss Sadie Sly tellers.

"The secretary presented a letter from the Detroit Graduate Nurses' Association begging the honor of the Eighth Annual Convention for that city. The letter was placed on file pending the action of the delegates.

"The secretary reported the following applications received during the year and referred to the Committee on Eligibility:

"That of the alumnae of the Nurses' Training-School of the Bridgeport Hospital, membership seventy; the Children's, of Boston, forty-three; the City and County, St. Paul, forty-seven; the Indianapolis City, thirty-five; the Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, fifty-one; the Lebanon, of New York, forty; the Maryland General, of Baltimore, forty; the Massachusetts State, of Tewksbury, forty-three; the National Homœopathic, of Washington, thirty-two; the Newport, R. I., thirty-six; the Philadelphia Polyclinic, twenty-five; the Providence, of Washington, twenty-four; the Dr. Joseph Price's, of Philadelphia, fifteen; the St. Barnabas, of Minneapolis, thirty-one; the St. Mary's, of Detroit, thirty-five; the State Hospital of the Northern Anthracite Coal Region of Pennsylvania, Scranton, forty-five; the Union Benevolent Association Hospital, of Grand Rapids, thirty-two; the Wesley, of Chicago, thirty-two.

"[It shall be the duty of the Eligibility Committee to investigate the fitness of all nursing organizations applying for membership in this association. They shall report their findings to the Board of Directors, whose decisions as to eligibility shall be final.]

"The Board of Directors voted to withhold membership from the alumnae of the Dr. Joseph Price and the Bridgeport, as these were not endorsed by the committee. The others were admitted to all the privileges of the association.

"Nine State organizations had become affiliated: The Graduate Nurses' Association, of the District of Columbia; the Illinois State Association of Graduate Nurses; the Indiana State Nurses' Association; the Maryland State Association of Graduate Nurses; the Massachusetts State Nurses' Association; the Michigan State Nurses' Association; the New York State Nurses' Association; the Ohio State Association of Graduate Nurses; the Graduate Nurses' Association of Virginia.

"Respectfully submitted,

"MARY E. THORNTON."

On motion of Miss Palmer, seconded by Miss McIsaac, the report of the secretary was accepted.

PRESIDENT.—The treasurer's report, which has been audited, will now be presented for your acceptance.

Miss Healy, the treasurer, then made the following report of the financial condition of the association:

TAMAR E. HEALY, treasurer, in account with the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States,  
May 12, 1904-May 3, 1905.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand May 12 .....	\$372 71
Annual dues for 1904.....	\$610 90
Annual dues in advance for 1905.....	11 40
Initiation fees .....	55 00
Sale of Annual Reports.....	7 50
Sale of Buffalo Congress Reports.....	5 00
Sale of National Council pins.....	10 25
Interest on bank account to date.....	700 05
	10 70

DISBURSEMENTS.

Badges and ballots for Seventh Annual Con- vention .....	\$18 76
Printing of Constitution and By-laws.....	28 50
Expenses of Census Committee .....	3 63
Typewriting and reporting Seventh Annual Convention.....	25 25
President's expenses attending Seventh An- nual Convention.....	28 00
Secretary's expenses attending Seventh An- nual Convention.....	24 99
Treasurer's expenses attending Seventh An- nual Convention.....	8 90
American Federation of Nurses, expenses of president.....	10 25
Periodical Committee, circulars, etc.....	4 85
Committee on Education, reports and notices Committee on purchase of JOURNAL stock...	3 00
Stamped stationery.....	1 10
Expenses two directors attending Executive Committee meeting.....	10 74
8 copies Convention NURSING JOURNAL, and filing reports .....	59 30
Telephone messages for Convention.....	2 20
1 dozen National Council pins.....	4 05
Annual dues to National Council of Women Typewriting notices for Eighth Annual Con- vention.....	8 00
Stamps, stationery, and exchange for treasurer	16 67
Current expenses of secretary for two years	5 68
Auditing books.....	5 33
	32 73
	4 00
Balance in bank .....	\$305 93
	777 53
	\$1083 46

Examined and found correct.  
Byron Horton, Auditor.  
April 28, 1905.

\$1083 46

N.B. Fund for purchase of JOURNAL, one share of stock, value \$100.00. Cash in bank, \$15.00.

On motion of Miss Rhodes, seconded by Miss Samuel, the treasurer's report was accepted.

PRESIDENT.—We will next call for the report of the Nominating Committee, Miss Milne, chairman.

"MADAME PRESIDENT: The Nominating Committee held a meeting at the Presbyterian Hospital, Philadelphia, on March 11, present Miss Bowen, Boston; Miss Rudden and Miss Milne, Philadelphia. Mrs. Higbee, Chicago, and Miss Cabaniss, Richmond, Va., wrote regretting their inability to be present. The committee regrets to report that Miss Riddle would not allow her name to be placed on the ballot as president. It also regrets that Miss Thornton and Miss Healy, having been notified of the committee's plan to renominate them for the offices of secretary and treasurer, have both declined these nominations. The following names are presented:

For president, Miss Annie Damer, Bellevue Training-School Alumnae, New York; Miss Lucy Fisher, New Haven Training-School Alumnae. For first vice-president, Miss Georgia M. Nevins, Johns Hopkins Training-School Alumnae; Miss E. H. Webb, Old Dominion Training-School Alumnae, Richmond, Va. For second vice-president, Miss Jane A. Delano, Bellevue Training-School Alumnae; Miss Katharine DeWitt, Illinois Training-School Alumnae. For secretary, Miss Nellie M. Casey, University Training-School Alumnae, Philadelphia; Miss Annie Rhodes, Bellevue Training-School Alumnae. For treasurer, Miss Anna Davids, Long Island College Training-School Alumnae; Miss Alice M. Garrett, Pennsylvania Training-School Alumnae. For two directors for three years—Miss E. D. Ayres, Rhode Island Training-School Alumnae; Miss Harriet Fulmer, St. Luke's Training-School Alumnae, Chicago; Miss M. M. Riddle, Boston City Training-School Alumnae; Miss C. D. Seidensticker, Hahnemann Training-School Alumnae, Chicago.

"Respectfully submitted,

"CAROLINE I. MILNE,  
"Chairman."

On motion of Miss Davis, seconded by Mrs. Fleetwood, the report of the Nominating Committee was accepted.

PRESIDENT.—The constitution provides that a printed list of the nominees shall be given each delegate at the morning's session on the second day of this meeting. Those printed lists are now ready and you may have them by calling for them. The Board of Directors have appointed a judge and two tellers to conduct this election. The judge of election is Miss Milne, of the Presbyterian Hospital, Philadelphia; Miss Ross, of the Johns Hopkins, and Miss Sly, of the Farrand, Detroit, are the tellers. [Miss Sly was unable to serve, and Miss Randolph, of the Virginia Hospital, was appointed a teller.]

We will now proceed with the business in hand and call for a report from the Committee of Arrangements, Miss Nevins, chairman.

MISS NEVINS.—I shall take only one moment to give you an exceedingly informal report. The Committee of Arrangements has to report that a chairman was appointed by the Executive Committee with permission to select four others in Washington to prepare for your coming, and we have had, of course, numerous meetings, have gone through the process with which all of you are probably familiar, the selecting of a hall, the selecting of certain speakers, the question of entertainment, and all those things which I need not go into. You understand that when you came to Washington that we had so much for you in the way of sights in the city that we were especially requested not to provide very much in the way of other entertainment; we purposely arranged the sessions for the morning and the evening, remembering that most all of the important buildings are closed at four and four-thirty, and therefore we gave you the afternoon for

that purpose. One word of apology, if we need it in any direction, is that all we had to go by in preparing for you was what other cities had done, and I think you have only to look about you to see that there has been no such attendance in any other place, so do not blame us if we have run short on programmes, badges, etc. I only want to tell you that we are delighted to have you here, that we are enchanted at this attendance, and that with such a reward the work must be considered absolutely nothing.

PRESIDENT.—I want to again call your attention to the constitution, which provides for the election of officers and says that the polls shall be open until the afternoon session, which should properly begin at two o'clock; therefore the polls will close at two o'clock, as it is not fair for us to keep these two tellers and one judge holding the polls open all afternoon for delinquent delegates to take their time in voting. We will now call for the report of the Committee on Printing.

MISS THORNTON.—Madame President, in behalf of Miss Damer, Miss Healy, and myself (members of the Printing Committee) I beg to announce that our work has been the printing of the constitution and by-laws at a cost of seventeen dollars for a thousand copies; that is the extent of our work for the year; the bills for the printing of the programmes and things pertaining to the convention, of course, have not come in as yet.

PRESIDENT.—Last year in conducting our programme we found it most interesting to delegate certain parts of it to the charge of those who were best acquainted with the particular subject in hand, and we found, also, that we reaped great results in the way of knowledge gained thereby, therefore the conclusion was reached by your Programme Committee that it would be wise to do so this year. We have delegated the papers on the programme to-day to the care and guidance of one, the very one best fitted to undertake any work along that line. I have very great pleasure, therefore, in introducing to you Miss Wald, of the Nurses' Settlement, New York, who will take the chair and conduct the programme for the remainder of the morning.

MISS WALD.—I thank you and the committee for this compliment, not as to me personally, I assure you, though that is very gratifying, but as evidence of the recognition of the important part that nurses must play in the whole social construction, or reconstruction. Your president has said that we have a glorious past, and so we have,—the glorious past of growth and the interesting period of development,—but we do not come into our heritage; we have no right to claim a distinct and individual place in the formation of ideals and in the establishment of standards for the whole community unless we take our place as constituent parts of the whole social structure, aside from our own professional interests. The nurse should not be only a nurse, and though we have all been told in the elementary stages of our work that our influence should not be limited to the four walls of the sick-room, nevertheless we did not hear so much of its extension as we do to-day. If we feel that hitherto there has been some lack of social purpose, some indifference to the whole community in the nurse's training, our history in this respect has not been different from the history of educational institutions throughout the world. Now the development and establishment of educational standards is claiming the best thought of many, and in colleges and universities as well as training-schools those responsible for development are saying, "We dare not stop here."

The community demands of us something more than nursing, and that which

nurses are fitted to give is especially important to those parts of the community that are lacking in resources. You are needed as educators of the families and the people with whom you come into contact, and as helpers by the army of social workers, who often look to the nurse for clear and definite directions, as having opportunities of knowledge that no one else has.

If it does not seem presumptuous of me to suggest it, I would say to the training-schools that, along with the technical training theirs is the obligation of teaching the pupil, "You also are a part of this great Commonwealth, to assist in preserving the principles laid down by the founders of the Republic, and when your duty takes you into the homes of the poor you must not only give your services with a feeling heart, but must employ your intellect as well, to see where abuses may be corrected and the cause of evil be abolished."

In this connection, as we are meeting here in the capital, it is interesting to recall that the President in his message has asked Congress to inquire into and take action on the sanitary conditions and housing problem of the District of Columbia, and I feel it would be proper for this meeting to pass some resolution approving his practical and much needed suggestion, if not out of order to take such action now. We will then proceed with the programme, and I promise you to remember that a very successful presiding officer has said that the ideal chairman is the one who does not steal all the material of the speakers. I will try to imitate the model chairman as he described him, who, at a certain performance, rose and said: "Gentlemen, Herr Schmitt is the best 'cello player in the world; I have introduced him and he will play."

Miss NUTTING.—I move in response to Miss Wald's suggestion concerning President Roosevelt's message that the president of the Associated Alumnae be authorized to appoint a committee to take the proper steps in reference to the suggestion.

Motion seconded by Miss Palmer and carried.

Miss WALD.—The first paper to-day is the paper on "Visiting Nurses and the Prevention of Tuberculosis," by Miss Thelin. I will remember my promise not to say very much, although I should like to. Miss Thelin is a member of the General Council of the Maryland State Board Committee on Tuberculosis. She and Miss Nutting represent the nursing profession, having been complimented by election to that office. Miss Thelin will give you a general outline of the work that has been done on tuberculosis. To fix your attention in a slight manner upon the tremendous effect of education along those lines I should like to quote one figure—that in the last fifteen years in New York City, during which time there has been a great deal of money and time and effort devoted to the education on the prevention of tuberculosis, the mortality has been reduced forty per cent. I take pleasure in introducing Miss Thelin, a graduate of the Johns Hopkins Training-School.

### VISITING NURSES AND THE PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS

By MISS REIBA THELIN

"The open-air treatment for pulmonary consumption, or phthisis, is by no means so new as we moderns imagine. Dr. Osler, in an address made in 1900, quotes from John Locke, the philosopher, telling of a case